

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SPC-03 SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 INT-08 FEA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 /182 R

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R 062210Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 025088

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AG

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON ALGERIAN PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL
UNGA SESSION

1. IN CONTEXT OF INTRODUCTORY CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(IO) BUFFUM, FRENCH MINISTER DE LA GORCE CONFIRMED THAT
PARIS HAS NOT YET RESOLVED HOW TO RECONCILE THE ALGERIAN
PROPOSAL FOR A SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA TO DEAL WITH RAW
MATERIALS WITH THE FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR A UN ENERGY CON-
FERENCE. DE LA GORCE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE
TWO PROPOSALS ARE INCOMPATIBLE.

2. MOTIVATION FOR THE SUDDEN ALGERIAN MOVE, THE FRENCH
BELIEVE, IS FEAR THAT THE THIRD WORLD MOVEMENT WILL SPLIT
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INTO AN OIL-PRODUCER FACTION PITTED AGAINST AN OIL-CONSUMER

FACTION. THE ALGERIAN-SPONSORED SPECIAL SESSION TO CONSIDER PROBLEMS OF ALL RAW MATERIALS IS A DEFENSIVE PLOY, THE FRENCH BELIEVE, WHICH CHECKS THE PARTICULAR VULNERABILITY OF OIL PRODUCERS FROM ATTACK BY CONSUMER COLLEAGUES IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT.

3. DE LA GORCE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE FRENCH PROPOSAL, ALTHOUGH PRESENTED FIRST, WAS COINED IN GENERAL TERMS, WHILE THE ALGERIANS HAVE SET UN WHEELS, PROBABLY IRREVERSIBLY, IN MOTION. THE FRENCH ARE AWARE THAT THE SPECIAL SESSION, ONCE UNDERWAY AND WITH LITTLE ADVANCE PREPARATION, WILL BE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL. FRANCE, HOWEVER, IS MORE DEPENDENT THAN THE US ON FOREIGN ENERGY RESOURCES AND MUST THEREFORE DEAL WITH ARAB COUNTRIES IN ITS OWN WAY.

4. ASST SECRETARY BUFFUM EXPRESSED US PLEASURE AT FRENCH DECISION TO JOIN WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE. US BELIEVES THAT IT IS PREFERABLE TO BEGIN WITH SMALL GROUP CONSULTATIONS HAVING LIMITED OBJECTIVES BEFORE PROCEEDING TO UNWIELDY UN CONFERENCES. KISSINGER

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